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UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

By DEWITT C. CROISSANT.

AS A REPRESENTATIVE of the Extension Division of the University of Kansas I very greatly appreciate the opportunity to appear before you and to present the question of the possibility of our mutual coöperation. Your purpose is the discovery of knowledge; the purpose of the Extension Division is the dissemination of knowledge and of education. The Extension Division is trying to make available to all of the people of the state all of the facilities of the University and of such bodies as your own. We are trying to make the state more efficient by giving it the material with which to increase its own efficiency by its own efforts. Your purpose is along the same line, for all research has as its ultimate aim the benefit of humanity.

The Extension Division does not restrict itself to the strictly University activities, but seeks the material which it endeavors to communicate to the various citizens of the state in whatever direction it may be found. We are giving, for instance, courses through correspondence in fire protection, and are conducting other courses in cooperation with the Board of Health of the state, and stand ready at any time to introduce work which may be a benefit to the citizens of the state wherever that work may be found. We are glad to cooperate with this or any other organization in disseminating knowledge which may be of value to the state. We are, for instance, preparing to send out material to all sorts of people on weights and measures; we prepare outlines for clubs or private studies; we furnish material to go with these outlines; and we are glad to list lectures by men of established ability who have something worth while to communicate.

There are various activities of the Extension Division, all of which are available to you, if they are practicable, for spreading a knowledge of the work that you are doing for the benefit of mankind. In the first place there is our Correspondence-study Department, which is not limited to purely academic work or to academic men. We are giving, through this department, work in vocational lines for men who are

working in the trades, and who are not able to go to regular schools; we are offering a course by the fire marshal of the state, and we are conducting a course in vital statistics by the state registrar. If you have work that can be put into this department we shall be very glad indeed to use it.

The Municipal Reference Bureau deals with all sides of the life of the various communities; it deals with the engineering, with the legal, with the social, with the administrative phases of community life. In connection with this Municipal Reference Bureau we are maintaining a library, and if there are any of your publications, papers, or special information which any of you may possess which will bear on municipal problems, we shall be very glad indeed to have them and to file them with our other material so that they may be available for the uses of those whom they would benefit the most.

So in our club-study work, in which we prepare outlines for dozens of clubs in the state, and in which we furnish a great many lecturers for the various communities, it may be that you are possessed of information or are able to suggest lines of work that would be of benefit to the serious and studious women and men of this state. If so, we should be very glad to have such suggestions as may come from your experience along special lines, and shall be very glad indeed to base our outlines and to furnish the material along these lines.

One of the most important phases of the University Extension work is the furnishing of what are called package libraries, which are clippings from various publications and which are furnished free of charge to those who may be interested in writing for them. The articles on various subjects are bound together and are furnished to those who are working in the subject. We suggest subjects to these people by publishing every year a list of the principal package libraries, and we shall be glad indeed in this field to have any contributions that you may make.

So, too, we publish from time to time various bulletins on subjects of general or public interest, and we are glad to have contributions from any source whatever towards the making of these bulletins. The only question involved is as to the public and general value and interest of the material that we present.

The University Extension Division, which you see is primarily an intermediary for the distribution of information and knowledge, is trying to get results. We try to attack our problems from the practical side, and are always willing to give credit to those who do the real work. Coöperation is one of the modern tendencies, and we of the University are glad to offer you our facilities for spreading the gospel of knowledge and of efficiency.